

REMARKS

The drawings were objected to because reference numeral 10, mentioned in the specification, was not shown in the drawings. Figs. 1–3 are hereby amended to include the reference numeral 10.

The abstract of the disclosure was objected to because it is more than a single paragraph. The abstract is hereby amended to be a single paragraph.

On page 4 of the specification, a reference numeral “20” was typed incorrectly as “30.” This error is hereby rectified by amendment to the specification.

Claims 1, 3, 5, and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pencoske (6,237,825) in view of Silin (2,970,316) and Velasco, Jr. et al. (6,278,372). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is currently amended to recite “at least one of said clip members disposed to attach to a back of the shirt collar.” None of Pencoske, Silin, or Velasco, Jr. et al. disclose or teach a clip member for securing the net transport device to the wearer’s shirt collar. Therefore, it would not have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the transport device of Pencoske by the teachings of Silin and Velasco, Jr. et al. to produce the transport device of amended claim 1.

Claims 3, 5, and 6 depend on claim 1, and are assumed to be allowable because amended claim 1 is assumed to be allowable.

Claims 2, 4, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pencoske in view of Silin and Velasco Jr. et al., and further in view of Ekman et al. (4,764,962). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2, 4, and 7 depend on claim 1. Because claim 1 is assumed allowable, dependent claims 2, 4, and 7 are also assumed allowable.

Claims 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pencoske, Silin, Velasco Jr. et al. in view of Ekman et al., and further in view of Stair (1,626,166). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

According to the Office Action, it would have been obvious from the various teachings of Pencoske, Silin, Velasco Jr. et al., Ekman et al., and Stair to attach the landing net transport device of the present invention to the shirt collar of the wearer.

Evidently, the teachings of Stair allegedly provide the collar attachment aspect since claims 8 and 9 were not rejected with claims 2, 4, and 7. However, what Stair teaches is a **seat pad** (8) (title, col. 1 lines 46–47) for sportsmen's coats (5) (col. 1 line 36). The seat pad is worn in the general vicinity of the seat, and **attachment to a collar would be unuseful to the use of this seat pad**. The teaching of Stair, additionally, is that, when the seat pad (8) is not in use as a seat pad, it may be **repositioned** using the fabric tongue (12) by affixing the same to the button (13) (col. 2 lines 65–76). The clip member (30) used for attachment to a collar in the instant application does not provide an alternate position for the landing net transport device (10), not is an alternate position claimed. Thus the teachings of Stair are away from the use of a clip member (30) for affixing the landing net transport device (10) to a user's collar.

None of Pencoske, Silin, Velasco Jr. et al., and Ekman et al. teach the attachment of a landing net transport device to a user's collar. Hence, it would not have been obvious to modify the device of the art by including an additional strap element at the top portion of the receptacle member, as taught by Stair, and to replace the button-receiving hole taught by Stair with an alligator clip, as taught by Velasco, Jr. et al., so that the user may secure the transport device on their back.

Claims 10–12 have been added to further claim the invention.

Accordingly, because all claims 1–12 are believed to be clearly allowable, a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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